

of observation, and his manual skill, must be ascribed his having attained to fitness for the post than to the opportunities accessible during his youth to the natives of Canada, or even to the facilities afforded by the R. E. Department. Until towards the close of the century, he appears to have been chiefly employed in *copying* and in multiplying copies of the older maps which had already been made. Undoubtedly, Duberger executed beautiful copies of most of them, although those now remaining in this country have usually not his name attached, having been copied by *Charland, Gale*, and others. Before the British troops were withdrawn from this country, I saw among the copies of maps in the R. E. office a set of them evidently executed by him and having his signature : and these, being the best, were naturally selected for removal. In the practice pursued, it sometimes happened that Duberger delineated the map itself, while the whole or part of the lettering and references was left for other and less skilful hands.

I do not feel competent, by means of any critical description which I can furnish, to present an adequate estimate of his skill in drawing maps. Those who, in the course of their profession, are familiar with such matters and with his style, invariably speak of his artistical merit in terms of the highest commendation, and as having been far superior to that of any other draftsman of his day. Mr. Lambert, in the narrative of his visit to Quebec, in the autumn of 1806, makes the following mention of him :*

“ Before I quit the subject of the arts in Canada, a country seemingly more capable of supporting than creating genius, I must not omit to mention, with the approbation he deservedly merits, a gentleman of the name of Duberger, a native of that country, and an officer in the corps of Engineers, and Military Draughtsman. He is a self-taught

* *Lambert's Travels, Vol. 1, page 330.*